



Governor's Advisory Council to the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health

Chapel – Herman M. Holloway, Sr. Campus

September 20, 2018 9:00 a.m. – 11:00am

Members Present: Jack Akester, Christine Alois, Thomas Hall, Patricia Hill, Ira Kalbrosky, Devon Manning, Jim Martin, Daniel Meadows, Kim Pettyjohn, Susan Phillips

Members Excused: George Meldrum

Members Absent: Helena Carter, Robert Daniels, Andrea Guest, Janice Jolly,

Associate Members Present: Lynn Fahey, Bruce Lorenz, John McKenna, Charles Sygowski,

Associate Members Excused:

Associate Members Absent: Florence Alberque, Lisa Furber, Dan Hoeftmen, James Lark, Edie McCole

Interested Parties Present: Elizabeth Booth, Erin Goldner, Willard Heuser, Joshua Thomas, Clarence Watson, William Williams, Vaughn Nash, Samantha Ferringer, Rochelle Lazarchak, Robert Dillon

Topic	Discussion	Action
Call to Order/Introductions	Chairman Jim Martin called the meeting to order at 9:05am and welcomed everyone in attendance. Meeting participants were invited to introduce themselves and share their affiliation.	
Review and Approval of Minutes		May's minutes were approved.
Chairman's Report	Chairman Jim Martin introduced Robert. Robert shared his story about becoming involved with the peer program at Hopes and Dreams approximately six months ago. Hopes & Dreams is a community peer based program. The peer groups have helped him gain a way to cope with life. Robert shared that the clinical side is important but peers are a	

	<p>tremendous asset because you have people who can relate to your problems since things have happened to them too.</p> <p>Chairman Jim Martin reported the nominating committee for the election of officers is Bruce Lorenz and Lynn Fahey. Anyone who wants to nominate someone should send him or her an email. Trish Hill is interested in serving as Vice-Chair again. Jack Akester gave a brief description of what the Governor's Advisory Council is.</p> <p>Chairman Jim Martin reported that Trish had brought a speaker. Trish introduced Vaughn who gave his experiences with Hope & Dreams. Vaughn stated that Hopes & Dreams has helped him get his life in a better place.</p>	
Director's Report	<p>Director Elizabeth Romero reported DSAMH is launching a Delaware Electronic Treatment and Referral Network (DTRN). It allows health care providers to make online referrals for SUD treatment or mental health services for patients. DTRN allows DSAMH gather information on where to deploy people so services will get to people faster.</p> <p>Director Elizabeth Romero reported on October 3, 2018, the Substance Abuse Treatment and Recovery Transformation Initiative (START) would launch. START will help DSAMH simplify and meet the needs of people where they are. It will offer system-wide technical support to providers in the community to evaluate and measure clients' outcomes.</p> <p>Director Elizabeth Romero asked Dr. Clarence Watson to report on DPC. Dr. Watson reported DPC now has addiction services manned by Dr. Sherry Nykiel and this allows DPC to enhance the services for dual-diagnosis. Dr. Watson states a challenge at DPC is nursing shortages. Management is working on ways to minimize the stress on staff. Dr. Watson states there is a plan being discussed to use residents in the residency program to enhance mobile crisis and bridge services.</p>	

Standing Committee Reports:		
DPC Advisory Committee	Trish Hill gave a brief report of the last DPC Advisory.	
Children's Committee	No Report was given due to absence of representation.	
Employment Committee	<p>Andrea Guest reported unemployment could be reduced if the minimum wage was increased. There are many jobs available but people do not have many of the skills needed for them. There are individual training accounts, which assist people with getting employment. On the youth side, there is pre-employment training. Andrea states there is a value with peer support when people are engaging in employment. Peers are particularly helpful in helping young people.</p> <p>Andrea reports the Transition Conference is December 12th this year. The conference plays a large role in helping students make an informed choice after high school. Registration is capped at 700.</p>	
Membership Committee	Chairman Jim reported the membership committee has two open slots and introduce the newest member to the GAC, Christine Alois.	
Community Services Committee	Chairman Jim Martin introduced William who gave his experience with substance abuse. William reports that he has been in both detox facilities in Delaware. He is waiting to get a bed at Connections and cannot seem to find any type of temporary housing until then. He is sober but is thinking of using to get into detox again. Members of the GAC informed William that you do not necessarily have to go to detox before you can get treatment. Some members will be speaking with him after this meeting.	
Budget Committee	No report given due to the absence of committee representation	
Old Business	None	
New Business	Inspiring Hope Conference hosted by NAMI will be on October 9, 2018 at	

	Dover Downs. Hope on the Boardwalk hosted by NAMI will be on September 30, 2018 at Rehoboth Beach.	
Public Comment	None	
Meeting Adjourned	Meeting was adjourned at 11:05a.m.	